

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 07008 010922Z

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-01 SY-02 OC-01

CCO-00 SSO-00 USSS-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 /026 W

-----122671 010926Z /21

O 010912Z MAY 78 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO VP PARTY/AFII NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5087

S E C R E T MANILA 07008

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.)

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE SECURITY CHIEF ON CONTACTS WITH
OPPOSITION

1. ON MAY 1, 1978, MAJOR GENERAL FABIAN VER, CHIEF OF THE
PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY COMMAND AND PRESIDENT MARCOS' CHIEF
ADVISER ON NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BROUGHT UP WITH EMBASSY
OFFICER SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE MEETINGS BETWEEN VICE PRESIDENT
AND OPPOSITION FIGURES. VER STRONGLY IMPLIED THERE WOULD
BE NO PROBLEM WITH SUCH MEETINGS. VER SAID IF VP HAD COME
TO MANILA DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGN SUCH MEETING WITH
OPPOSITION FIGURES MIGHT HAVE BEEN CONSTRUED AS MEDDLING OR
INTERFERENCE. NOW, HOWEVER, SENATORS AQUINO AND TANADA ARE
IN COMMUNICATION WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS IN ATTEMPT TO SOFTEN
DIFFERENCES AND POLITICAL TEMPERATURES ARE SUBSIDING. UNDER
CIRCUMSTANCES, VER DID NOT BELIEVE MARCOS WOULD OBJECT TO
VICE PRESIDENT MEETING OPPOSITION FIGURES.

2. EMBASSY OFFICER COMMENTED IT NORMAL PROCEDURES FOR U.S.
PRESIDENTS OR VICE PRESIDENTS TO MEET RANGE OF OPINION
LEADERS DURING SUCH VISITS. SHOULD MEETING WITH OPPOSITION
TRANSPIRE DURING PHILIPPINE VISIT, SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED
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BY PRESIDENT MARCOS AND HIS GOVERNMENT AS DISRESPECT TO
PRESIDENT OR LACK OF UNDERSTANDING HIS GOVERNMENT. VER
SAID HE SURE MARCOS UNDERSTOOD THIS. STULL

SECRET

NNN

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